POOR LAW (IRELAND).

RETURN to an ORDER of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 28 February 1842;—*for*,

COPIES of the CORRESPONDENCE between the Poor Law Commissioners in *Ireland* and the Boards of Guardians of the *North* and *South Dublin* Unions, relative to the Duties and Payment of the Medical Officers of those Unions; and of the CIRCULAR addressed by the Poor Law Commissioners in *Ireland* to the Boards of Guardians there, on the subject of their Report on Medical Charities, with the REPLIES they have received to it.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin, 2 April 1842.

ARTHUR MOORE, Chief Clerk.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 30 *May* 1842.

I.—SOUTH DUBLIN UNION.

No. 1.—COMMUNICATION from the Board of Guardians to the Poor Law Commissioners.

(No. 205 D. 40.)

Gentlemen, Dublin, 11 January 1840.

I AM directed by the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union to transmit you a copy of the annexed Resolutions, passed on Thursday, 9th instant.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Peter Gerraty*,
Clerk of the Union.

[Annex to foregoing Letter.]

Moved by Mr. Mackay, seconded by Mr. R. Smyth:
Resolved, That a physician, a surgeon, and a resident apothecary, be appointed to the South Dublin Union workhouse.

Moved by Alderman Perrin, seconded by Dr. Nalty:
That the salaries of the physician and surgeon should be 100*l.* a year to each.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Boilean:
That 60*l.* be the sum fixed on for each.
On the question being put by the chairman, the amendment was carried.

Mr. La Touche moved, that the salary of apothecary should be 60*l.*:
Mr. Gavin moved, as an amendment, that it should be 80*l.*:
A division was called for, and the amendment was carried.

Moved by Mr. Joseph Lentaigne, seconded by Alderman Perrin:
Resolved, That no person be elected to fill the situations of physician, surgeon, or apothecary, except qualified by the Dublin Colleges.

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No. 2.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

(No. 205 D. 40.)

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
15 January 1840.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners desire to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, transmitting a copy of the resolutions passed by the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union, at their meeting on the 9th instant; and the Commissioners desire to express their approval of the resolution to the effect that a physician, a surgeon, and a resident apothecary, be appointed to the Union Workhouse; they also approve of the sums proposed as the salaries of the physician and surgeon, viz. 60*l.* a year for each.

With reference to the resolution, fixing the salary of the apothecary at 80*l.* per annum, the Commissioners desire to state, that before receiving this communication they had sanctioned a salary of 60*l.* per annum for the resident apothecary of the North Dublin Union, as suggested by the Board of Guardians; that such a salary appears to the Commissioners reasonable, and an amount of remuneration for which the services of a properly-qualified apothecary may be secured; which opinion is confirmed by the fact of 60*l.* being the salary at the present time paid to the chief apothecary of the House of Industry. The Commissioners, therefore, for these considerations, and especially with a view to the expediency of keeping the establishments of the two Dublin Unions similar in extent and in expense, request the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union to consider whether it will not be better to commence with a salary of 60*l.*; and the Commissioners would further observe, that at any future period, when the amount of duty to be performed by the apothecary is exactly ascertained, the salary may, if it should then appear necessary to raise it, be increased, whereas it is always difficult to reduce a salary which has one been determined upon.

The Commissioners desire to state, with reference to the last resolution, by which the guardians restrict the holding of the situations of physician, surgeon, or apothecary to those persons only who are qualified by the Dublin Colleges, that the Legislature has in this instance omitted, advisedly, as the Commissioners believe, any limitation on the choice of Boards of Guardians in the appointment of medical officers; and the Commissioners, having regard to the 31st section of the Irish Poor Relief Act, which imposes on them the duty of prescribing the qualifications of all paid officers, do not feel it incumbent on them to restrict, by any such prohibition as that contained in this resolution, the number of professional gentlemen from whom the guardians have to select the physician, surgeon, and apothecary of the workhouse; it being of primary importance that the guardians should, in providing medical relief for the destitute, be at liberty to procure it wherever it can best be found.

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *W. Stanley,*
Assistant Secretary.

No. 3.—Extracts from Minutes of Board of Guardians, 30 January 1841.

Resolved, That in consequence of the Poor Law Commissioners having refused their sanction to a resolution of this Board, that no person should be eligible to a medical appointment unless qualified by the Dublin Colleges, the Board now rescind that resolution.

On the motion of Mr. Dolan, it was resolved that the salary of the apothecary be reduced from 80*l.* to 60*l.* a year for the present.

Mr. O'Dwyer postponed his motion till Thursday next.

The clerk was directed to insert an advertisement in the usual newspapers, that the Board will proceed to the election of an apothecary on Thursday next.

The Board proceeded to the election of a physician: 14 applications were received. Moved by Alderman Perrin, that the applications of the surgeons be now read.

Sir Robert Shaw moved as an amendment that the physicians be first disposed of.

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of. The amendment was carried. Six were selected out of the original number, having the majority of votes.

Moved by Mr. Lentaigne, seconded by the Lord Mayor, that the Board now proceed to the election of two out of the six.

Mr. La Touche moved as an amendment that four candidates be selected.

The question was put and the amendment carried. Ultimately the list was reduced to two, and on a division there appeared 24 votes for Dr. Lees and 16 for Dr. Brady, when the chairman declared Dr. Lees to be duly elected physician to the South Dublin Union Workhouse.

The Board next proceeded to the election of a surgeon: 19 applications were received, which were read over by the chairman. The election was conducted on the same plan as the former, and ultimately reduced to two, Surgeons Trant and Shannon; on a division, the latter appeared to have 28 votes and the former 12, on which the chairman declared Surgeon Shannon to be duly elected surgeon to the South Dublin Union Workhouse.

No. 4.—Letter from Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
8 February 1841.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners acknowledge the receipt of a copy of a resolution passed by the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union, at their meetings, on the 30th ultimo and 1st instant, and they desire to convey to the guardians their sanction to the appointment of Cathcart Lees, Esq. as physician, and Peter Shannon, Esq. as surgeon of the South Dublin Union Workhouse respectively.

The testimonials sent with your letter are returned herewith.

(By order of the Board),
(signed) *W. Stanley,*
Assistant Secretary.

No. 5.—Letter from the Clerk of the Guardians to the Commissioners.

(No. 612 D. 40.)

Gentlemen, Dublin, 7 February 1840.

I am directed by the Board of Guardians to inform you, that at a meeting held yesterday, the 6th instant, James F. Grant, Esq. was declared by the chairman duly elected apothecary to the Union Workhouse, at a salary of 60*l.* a year, with apartments, coals, candles, and a sufficient quantity of the provisions used in the establishment.

I send herewith his testimonials.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Peter Gerraty,*
Clerk of the Union.

No. 6.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

(612 D.)

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
12 February 1840.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, and desire to convey to the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union their sanction to the appointment of Mr. James F. Grant, as apothecary to the Union Workhouse, at a salary of 60*l.* per annum, with apartments, coals, candles, and a reasonable allowance of the articles of provision specified in the dietary. Mr. Grant's testimonials are returned herewith.

(By order of the Board),
(signed) *W. Stanley,*
Assistant Secretary.

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No. 7.—Resolution of the Board of Guardians, 24 June 1841.

(No. 5847 D. 41.)

That the salary of the medical men, physician and surgeon, of the South Dublin Union be raised from 60 to 100*l.* per annum.

No. 8.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Gaurdians.

(5847 D.)

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
13 July 1841.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners have had under consideration the resolution of the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union, communicated in your letter of the 26th ultimo, proposing an increase of 40*l.* to the salaries of the physician and surgeon of the workhouse, whereby the annual remuneration of each officer would be raised from 60*l.* to 100*l.*

With reference to this resolution, the Commissioners have to state the following grounds on which they feel it incumbent on them to withhold their sanction from the proposed increase.

At the election of medical officers, when the present physician and surgeon were chosen, the amount of salary being first settled and published, a number of gentlemen of known professional competency presented themselves as candidates for the offices; the Commissioners had no hesitation in confirming the choice of the Guardians on that occasion, and they willingly admit that the services rendered by the physician and surgeon have fully justified the selection. But the Commissioners are persuaded that if the offices were now vacant, and the salary the same, candidates of unexceptionable claims would again come forward; and though the principle of bestowing office upon him who will take it upon the lowest terms is not absolutely asserted, still it must not be lost sight of, where the remuneration is to be paid out of a public fund, collected and expended by a board of representatives, who are the trustees of those whom they represent.

The Commissioners do not consider it just towards the ratepayers that the Guardians should testify their approval of the services of an officer by raising his salary; the true principle is to adjust the amount of remuneration to the extent of duty to be performed, and to see that the duty is performed by any one who undertakes it at the fixed rate of remuneration. If, from circumstances, it should happen that the duties of any office are so augmented as to become disproportionate to the salary attached to it, there is then fair ground for augmenting the salary also. The salary of the physician and surgeon of the workhouse is the same as that paid by the Government to the junior physicians of the Whitworth Hospital, and it is presumed by the Commissioners that the duties of the one situation are not more onerous than those of the other. It is, however, the intention of the Commissioners, at no distant period, to cause official inquiry to be made on this point; they consider it not improbable that from defective arrangements, or other causes, the medical officers of the workhouse may be under the necessity of devoting more of their time to their duties there than the occasion really requires, and more than is compatible with the full exercise of their professional avocations elsewhere, to the detriment of their personal interests. Should such prove to be the case, the Commissioners will call upon the Guardians to co-operate with them in applying a remedy; but the Commissioners are at present of opinion, that the amount of salary originally fixed affords a fair remuneration for the attendance and trouble which, under ordinary circumstances, the medical officers of such an establishment as the South Dublin Workhouse should be required to bestow.

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *Arthur Moore,* Chief Clerk.

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No. 9.—Resolution of Board of Guardians, 12 August 1841.

(No. 7351 D. 41.)

Resolved, That the Commissioners be requested to reconsider their letter to the clerk of the Board of Guardians, relative tu the increased salary of the physician and surgeon to the South Dublin Union, that resolution having been unanimously passed by a full Board of Guardians, wbo, on reconsideration, are of opinion that it should be complied with hy the Commissiuners.

No. 10.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
25 August 1841.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners acknowledge the receipt of your communication uf the 13th instant, containing extracts from the minutes of proceedings of the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union on the 12th instant, and with reference to the resolution in which the Guardians request the Commissioners to reconsider their letter of the 13th ultimo, relative to the salary of the physician and surgeon of the workbouse, tbe Commissiuners desire to state that it is their intention to have a complete investigation made into the medical relief given in the workhouse. Among the objects they bave in view, is that of ascertaining the demand which ought fairly to he made upon the medical officers for their time and lahour; and with the data thus acquired, the Commissioners will be happy to comply with the request of the Board of Guardians, and recunsider their decision as to tbe proposed increase of salary to tbe physician and surgeon.

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *Arthur Moore*, Chief Clerk.

No. 11.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, with an Enclosure.

Poor Law Commission Office, Duhlin,
30 September 1841.

Sir,

With reference to their letter of the 25th August, relative to the medical arrangements connected with the South Dnhlin Union Workhouse, the Poor Law Commissioners desire to inform the Board of Guardians that they have caused their medical assistant commissioner, Mr. Phelan, to examine and inquire into the subject, in reference tu the two Duhlin Unions, and the Commissioners transmit herewith, for the consideration of the Guardians, a copy of his report thereon.

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *Arthur Moore*, Chief Clerk.

Enclosure in foregoing Letter.

Report to tbe Commissioners from *Denis Phelan*, Esq. M. R. C. S. Assistant Pour Law Commissioner.

Gentlemen, Rathmines, 6 Septemher 1841.

I have the honour of informing you that, in pursuance of your instructions that I should "take an early opportunity of examining into the medical duties as now performed hy the medical officers of the two Dublin Workhouses, and report thereon;" I have accompanied tbese gentlemen through the hospitals, and such other parts of these establishments as are appropriated to the sick, and have examined the arrangements by which they perform their respective duties.

The pbysician and surgeon prescribe for the sick daily, by such an arrangement as enables each of these officers to devote his attention to about one-half the patients

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patients in the hospitals, infirm sick wards, and nursery. They also examine, and, when necessary, prescribe for any other inmates who are reported to be ill.

The duties of the apothecary at each workhouse are understood to be, to prepare and dispense the medicines directed by the physician and surgeon, and to regulate the diet books; but in the absence of the superior medical officers he visits such of the inmates, whether in or out of hospital, as are reported to have become suddenly ill, to whom he gives such medicines as the state of the patient appears to require. This he does with the knowledge of the physician and surgeon, though no written or other instructions appear to have been given to that effect. It is, however, optional with the apothecaries to send for the superior officers in any such case, but this they have found unnecessary, except on a few occasions. The apothecary of the North Dublin Workhouse, in addition, attends such labour cases as occur in the house.

South Dublin Workhouse.

From the 24th of April 1840 to the 31st of August 1841, the number admitted into the South Dublin Workhouse was 4,615. During that period, it appears by the "registry of sickness and mortality," that 5,750 cases were treated by the physician and surgeon, of whom 4,367 were taken into hospital, and 1,383 attended in the infirm and nursery wards.

The deaths amounted to 426, being 9 $\frac{1}{5}$ per cent. on the workhouse admission, and 9 per cent. on the hospital admissions.

The number of patients casually prescribed for is not recorded, but it may perhaps amount to 20 daily.

On the day of inspection, the hospitals contained 126 patients; there were besides 78 in the sick infirm wards; making a total of 204, more or less, under medical treatment.

The number of days during which each patient on an average remained in hospital is nearly 24.

North Dublin Union Workhouse.

The number of destitute admitted into the North Dublin Workhouse from the 4th of May 1840 to the 31st of August 1841, was 4,171, of which 2,550 were sent into hospital. The deaths amounted to 384, being 9 $\frac{1}{5}$ per cent. on the workhouse admissions, and 15 per cent. on the hospitals admissions.

It thus appears that the deaths in both bear the same relative proportion to the number in the house.

About 35 are stated to be prescribed for daily at this house, exclusive of hospital patients; some of the former in both houses require medical care, but others apply for it with a view to induce the medical officer to order them change of diet; in either case his time is equally occupied.

The average number of days during which each patient remained in hospital was 23 $\frac{2}{3}$.

I am of opinion that the duties of the medical officers of each institution are diligently and faithfully performed.

It is not possible to precisely estimate the time that must necessarily be occupied in the due performance of these duties, as much depends on the method and tact of the prescriber; but as all the sick in the hospitals, infirm wards, and nursery, and all other inmates who report themselves to be ill, are daily examined by the physician or surgeon, the time so occupied must be considerable.

In some large public institutions, the minor medical duties are performed by the resident medical officer, who refers to the physician or surgeon such cases as require their more particular attention. By this arrangement the time of the resident officer would be usefully occupied in prescribing for these lighter cases, whilst it ensures his frequent surveillance over the entire of the sick department, and the attention of the superior officers to all that requires it; were such an arrangement carried out in these workhouses, the time and labour of the physicians and surgeons would be considerably lessened; and, as the resident apothecaries are well educated and intelligent, it is reasonable to suppose that the sick would be not less efficiently attended.

It is possible that the superior medical officers may not at present be favourable to such a subdivision of labour; but if the guardians concurred in this view, the

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the medical officers would probably, on reconsideration, see its advantages and readily fall in with it.

I annex a Table, which shows the sum fixed for medical attendance in each of 35 workhouses, by which it appears that the average cost per head on the full number which they are intended to contain, varies from a minimum of 10 *d.* to a maximum of 2 *s.* 8 *d.*; the mean average of all being 1 *s.* 4$\frac{2}{5}$ *d.*

I have, &c.

(signed) *Denis Phelan,*
Assistant Poor Law Commissioner.

TABLE annexed to Mr. *Phelan*'s Report.

Union Workhouses provided for 500, or Upwards.

TABLE, showing the Sum paid for Medical Attendance, and the Average Cost per Head, on the full Establishment.

Name of Union.	Number of Destitute provided for.	Medical Officers' Salaries.		Average Cost of Medical Attendance.		Name of Union.	Number of Destitute provided for.	Medical Officers' Salaries.		Average Cost of Medical Attendance.	
		£.	s.	s.	d.			£.	s.	s.	d.
Newcastle - -	550	75	–	2	8$\frac{4}{5}$	Londonderry -	800	50	–	1	3
Cloomel - -	600	75	–	2	6	Strabane - -	800	50	–	1	3
Waterford - -	900	110	–	2	5$\frac{1}{3}$	Boyle - -	700	40	–	1	1$\frac{5}{7}$
North Dublin -	*2,000	210	–	2	1$\frac{1}{5}$	Armagh - -	1,000	50	–	1	–
South Dublio -	*2,000	210	–	2	1$\frac{1}{5}$	Ballinasloe -	1,000	50	–	1	–
Gorey - -	500	50	–	2	–	Belfast - -	1,000	50	–	1	–
Rathdrum - -	600	60	–	2	–	Banbridge - -	800	40	–	1	–
Naas - - -	550	50	–	1	9$\frac{4}{5}$	Kilrush - -	800	40	–	1	–
Baltinglass -	500	40	–	1	7$\frac{1}{5}$	Lisburn - -	800	40	–	1	–
Gort - - -	500	40	–	1	7$\frac{1}{5}$	Longford - -	1,000	50	–	1	–
Trim - - -	500	40	–	1	7$\frac{1}{5}$	Loughrea - -	800	40	–	1	–
Rathkeale - -	660	50	–	1	6	Lurgan - -	800	40	–	1	–
Fermoy - -	900	60	–	1	4$\frac{2}{3}$	Middleton - -	800	40	–	1	–
Limerick - -	*1,600	110	–	1	4$\frac{1}{2}$	Nenagh - -	1,000	50	–	1	–
Edenderry - -	600	40	–	1	4	Newry - -	1,000	50	–	1	–
Cork - - -	*2,000	130	–	1	3$\frac{2}{5}$	Athlone - -	900	40	–	–	10$\frac{2}{3}$
Ennis - -	800	50	–	1	3	Sligo - -	1,200	50	–	–	10
Kilmallock - -	800	50	–	1	3						
						Mean Average - - -				1	4$\frac{4}{5}$

* The rations of the resident apothecary in each of these houses are assumed to cost the establishment 30 *l.*

No. 12.—Resolution of the Board of Guardians, 30 September 1841.

(No. 8964 D. 41.)

Resolved, That Doctors Nalty, Monks, and Kirkwood, be requested to obtain a report from two or more medical practitioners of eminence in this city, as to the duties necessary to be performed by the medical officers of this house, and also as to the salary which would be fair remuneration, on the same scale as the other public institutions in the country.

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No. 13.—Extracts from Minutes of Board of Guardians, 21 October 1841.

Resolved, That the medical officers be authorised to impose fines on the hospital nurse for every neglect of duty, as is the case in other hospitals, and to report same to the Board.

The report from Sir Henry Marsh and Surgeon Cusack, presented on the last Board day, having been read, it was moved by Mr. Mackay, seconded by Sir R. Shaw, bart., and resolved, that the report just now read be sent to the Poor Law Commissioners, with a request that they will accede to the wish of this Board, expressed in a resolution unanimously adopted, raising the salaries of the three medical officers from 60 *l.* to 100 *l.* per annum.

Report referred to in foregoing Resolution.

At the request of a committee formed from the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union, we have inspected the hospital and other medical and surgical departments of that institution, and we are of opinion that 60 *l.* per annum to each of the medical officers placed over these departments does not by any means adequately remunerate a perfectly qualified physician or surgeon for the labour, time, and care essential to the due discharge of the responsible duties devolving upon them, whether these duties be viewed separately or compared with those of other charitable institutions.

(signed) *H. Marsh*, M. D.
Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, &c.

(signed) *J. W. Cusack*, M. D.
10 October 141. Surgeon, Stevens' and Swift's Hospital.

No. 14.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

(No. 9829 D. 41.)

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
3 November 1841.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners have had under consideration extracts from the minutes of proceedings of the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union, on the 21st ultimo, and in reference to the resolution proposing to authorise the medical officers to impose fines on the hospital nurse, the Commissioners desire to state, that it is the duty of the medical officers to point out to the Board of Guardians, either by means of their report books or through the master or matron of the workhouse, all instances of neglect of duty in the hospital nurse or hospital servants, and it is incumbent on the Board to punish such misconduct by dismissal from office, or otherwise, as the nature of the offence may be. But in the opinion of the Commissioners the Board of Guardians cannot delegate the power necessary to maintain the discipline of the establishment to the medical officers, or to make any officer or servant amenable to them, or enable them to exercise any authority within the workhouse that ought to be exercised by the master and matron, who are properly responsible for the conduct of the inferior officers, the assistants and servants.

In reference to the increase proposed to be made in the salaries of the medical officers of the Union, the Commissioners desire to state, that they have read the report of Sir Henry Marsh and Doctor Cusack, to the effect that the sum of 60 *l.* per annum is not a sufficient remuneration to a perfectly qualified physician or surgeon for the labour, time, and care essential to the due discharge of the duties of medical officers to the workhouse, and have bestowed their best consideration upon the resolution of the Board of Guardians, requesting them to raise the salary of each of the three medical officers of the workhouse from 60 *l.* to 100 *l.* a year.

The Commissioners have on former occasions repeatedly expressed their unwillingness to augment the expense of this department of the workhouse, which, exclusive of the cost of medicines and of extra diet, amounts to at least 240 *l.* a year; for the value of lodging, rations, and other emoluments allowed to the resident

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dent apothecary cannot be estimated at less than 60 *l.* You are already aware that the amount of salary paid to the medical officers of the Dublin workhouses is proportionately higher than that paid in other Irish Unions; and the Commissioners, upon referring to a statement of the salaries of medical officers of workhouses in London, Liverpool, Sheffield, Nottingham, and Leicester, do not find one in which the amount, exclusive of the cost of medicines, (which in most instances in England are provided at the expense of the medical officers,) equals the amount paid in each of the Dublin workhouses.

Under these circumstances, the Commissioners, feeling that upon them, and not upon the Board of Guardians, lies the responsibility of fixing and regulating the salaries of paid officers, must adhere to their former arrangement, and decline to augment the remuneration of the three medical officers of the workhouse in the way proposed.

But the Commissioners would suggest the following course for the consideration of the Board of Guardians, without however wishing to disturb the existing arrangement, should the present medical officers not object to its continuance.

In the event of the present medical officers being unwilling to continue their services, the Commissioners would consider it advisable, should no qualified persons propose themselves as candidates to the vacant offices at the present salaries, to consolidate the offices and salaries of physician and surgeon. There are in Dublin medical gentlemen eminently qualified to practise in both branches of the profession, from among whom a perfectly competent officer could be selected, and the Commissioners entertain no doubt that a salary of 100 *l.* or 120 *l.* a year would secure for the Guardians the services of such an officer.

The Commissioners repeat that this suggestion is merely made to meet the possible case of a resignation on the part of your present physician and surgeon, on the ground of insufficient remuneration.

(By order of the Board),
(signed) *Arthur Moore,*
Chief Clerk.

No. 15.—Communication from Clerk of the Guardians to the Commissioners.

(No. 10452 D. 41.)

Gentlemen, South Dublin Union, 12 November 1841.

I am directed by the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union to transmit to you the following copy of a resolution passed at their meeting on yesterday.

Resolved, That the officers of this institution being elected by and under the control and management of this Board, the Board is fully qualified to form a correct judgment of the remuneration which should be allotted to each officer; and having already twice unanimously supported an increase of salary to the physician and surgeon on the broad principle of justice, we are still of opinion that their salaries should be increased. We cannot agree in the proposition laid down in the Commissioners' letter, fully satisfied that one medical gentleman could not perform the duties for any salary, as the two medical gentlemen are occupied even during the healthy season nearly five hours. Under these circumstances we, as Guardians, are desirous to pay our medical officers at the rate of 100 *l.* per annum.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wm. Kennedy,*
Clerk of the Union.

No. 16.—Extract from Minutes of Board of Guardians, 6 January 1842.

Dr. Monks gave notice that he would, on next day of meeting, move that a committee of six members of this Board be selected to wait on the Poor Law Commissioners, in order to induce them to raise the salaries of the medical officers more in proportion to their heavy duties than is now the case.

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No. 17.—Letter from the Clerk of the Union to the Commissioners.

South Dublin Union, 18 February 1842.

Gentlemen,

At a meeting of the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union on yesterday, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee, viz. Sir Robert Shaw, Alderman Keshan, Councillor Mackay, Captain Nowlan, and Dr. Nalty, "to wait on the Poor Law Commissioners, in order to induce them to sanction an increase of the salaries of the physician and surgeon, in order that their compensation may be more adequate to the serious and heavy duties they have to perform than is now the case; and that said committee be requested to report on this day week."

I am desired to ask if it would be convenient to you to receive the committee on Monday next, and at what hour?

(By order of the Board),
(signed) *Wm. Kennedy*, Clerk of the Union.

No. 18.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

(No. 2021 D. 42.)

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
19 February 1842.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners desire to state, in reference to your letter of the 18th instant, that they will be prepared to receive the deputation from the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union, relative to the salaries of the medical officers of the workhouse, at one o'clock on Monday next, the 21st instant.

(By order of the Board),
(signed) *Arthur Moore*, Chief Clerk.

No. 19.—Copy of Minute of the Board.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
21 February 1842.

A deputation from the Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union, consisting of Sir R. Shaw, Alderman Keshan, Mr. Mackay, Captain Nowlan, and Dr. Nalty, attended and had an interview with the Board, on the subject of the increase of the salaries of the medical officers of the workhouse, proposed by the Board of Guardians.

Reference having been made to the minutes of the Guardians on the subject, the Board stated that the proposed increase of the salaries of the physician and surgeon would not be further objected to, it being represented to be the almost unanimous wish of the Board of Guardians that they should be increased, and that the Commissioners would sanction the increase of salary from 60*l.* to 100*l.* a year to those officers respectively.

Ordered, that a letter be addressed to the Board of Guardians accordingly.

No. 20.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

(2021 D. 42.)

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
23 February 1842.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 18th instant, the Poor Law Commissioners desire to state, that having received on the 21st instant a deputation of Guardians of the South Dublin Union, on the subject of augmenting the salaries of the physician and surgeon, respectively of the workhouse, and having bestowed their attentive consideration upon the arguments adduced by the gentlemen composing that deputation, in support of an increase of 40*l.* a year to the salary of each of those

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those officers, the Commissioners will offer no further opposition to what is represented to be the almost unanimous wish of the Board of Guardians, and therefore desire to convey their sanction to the payment of a salary of 100*l.* a year to the physician and surgeon, respectively, of the South Dublin Union.

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *Arthur Moore*, Chief Clerk.

II.—NORTH DUBLIN UNION.

No. 21.—Extract from Minutes of Board of Guardians, 3 January 1840.

(No. 127 D. 40.)

That the salary of the resident apothecary of the Union be fixed at 60*l.* per annum, with lodging, coals, candles, and such rations as may be furnished to the house generally.

That a salary of 60*l.* a year each be paid to the physician and surgeon to be appointed to the Union Workhouse.

No. 22.—Extract from Letter of the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 9 January 1840.

(No. 127 D. 40.)

Referring to the minutes of proceedings of the Guardians of the North Dublin Union, on the 3d instant, the Poor Law Commissioners desire to convey to the Board their approval of the following resolutions.

* * * * * * * * * *

That the salary of the resident apothecary of this Union be fixed at 60*l.* per annum, with lodging, coals, candles, and such rations as may be furnished to the house generally.

That a salary of 60*l.* a year each be paid to the physician and surgeon to be appointed to the Union Workhouse.

* * * * * * * * * *

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *W. Stanley*,
Assistant Secretary.

No. 23.—Letter from the Board of Guardians to the Commissioners.

(No. 694 D. 40.)

Office of Poor Law Guardians, North Dublin Union,
Rotunda, 13 February 1840.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by the Board of Guardians to inform you that they elected on yesterday a physician, a surgeon, and an apothecary for the Union Workhouse. That James F. Duncan was elected the physician; Frederick Kirkpatrick the surgeon, and Gerard Brown the apothecary, each to have a salary of 60*l.* per annum. The apothecary will reside in the house, and will be allowed, in addition to his salary, coals, candles, and a reasonable quantity of such provisions as will be supplied generally for the establishment.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. H. Crean*, Clerk.

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No. 24.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
25 February 1840.

Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 13th instant, reporting the appointment by the Board of Guardians of the North Dublin Union, of a physician, a surgeon, and an apothecary for the Union Workhouse, the Poor Law Commissioners desire to convey to the Guardians their sanction to the appointment of Mr. James F. Duncan, as physician, at a salary of 60 *l.* per annum; Mr. Frederick Kirkpatrick, as surgeon, at a salary of 60 *l.* per annum; and Mr. Gerald Brown, as apothecary, at a salary of 60 *l.* per annum. The apothecary to reside in the workhouse, and be allowed, in addition to his salary, coals, candles, and a reasonable quantity of such provisions as will be supplied generally to the establishment and are contained in the dietary.

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *W. Stanley*, Assistant Secretary.

No. 25.—Letter addressed by the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, enclosing a Copy of Mr. *Phelan*'s Report, given in a previous part of this Return, No. 9.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
29 September 1841.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners having caused an inquiry to be made by their medical assistant commissioner, Mr. Phelan, into the arrangements for affording medical relief in the two Dublin Unions, they have received from him a Report* on the subject, of which they herewith transmit a copy for the consideration of the Board of Guardians of the North Dublin Union.

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *Arthur Moore*, Chief Clerk.

No. 26.—Resolution of the Board of Guardians.

(No. 2945 D. 42.)

9 March 1842.

It was resolved, upon the motion of Captain Lindsey, that the salaries of the physician and surgeon to the workhouse be increased, from 60 *l.* to 100 *l.* per annum each.

No. 27.—Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
15 March 1842.

Sir,

The Poor Law Commissioners have had under consideration the resolution passed at a meeting of the Board of Guardians of the North Dublin Union on the 9th instant, proposing to increase the salaries of the physician and surgeon to the workhouse from 60 *l.* to 100 *l.* per annum each; and under the circumstances the Commissioners desire to state that they will not withhold their approval of the proposed increase.

(By order of the Board),

(signed) *Arthur Moore*, Chief Clerk.

* Enclosure to No. 11, in a previous part of this Return.

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POOR LAW (IRELAND).

COPIES of CORRESPONDENCE between the COMMISSIONERS and the BOARDS of GUARDIANS of the *North* and *South Dublin* UNIONS, relative to the Duties and Payment of the Medical Officers of those Unions.

(Sir Robert Ferguson.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 30 *May* 1842.

274.

Under 2 *oz.*

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